

(5)

T H E
Maid of the Vale,
A
COMIC OPERA
O F
T H R E E A C T S;

As Performing at the

Theatre-Royal, Smock-Alley.

TRANSLATED and ALTERED

F R O M

LA BUONA FIGLIUOLA.

THE MUSIC BY

Mr. MICHAEL ARNE.

D U B L I N:

Printed by and for JAMES PARKER,
(No. 28) Temple-Bar.

And for JOHN HILLARY, (No. 54)

Castle-Street. 1775.

Sold by G. WALSH, 19, WOOD-QUAY.



Dramatis Personæ.

M E N.

Lord Lovewell,	Mr. MAHON.
Sir John Lofty,	Mr. GLENVIL.
Kreigfman,	Mr. WILDER.
Robin,	Mr. VANDERMERE.

W O M E N.

Lady Lucy,	Mrs. LEE.
Fanny,	Mrs. ARNE.
Phillis,	Mrs. SPARKS.
Sufan,	Mrs. TISDAL.

An old WOMAN, Nurse to FANNY.

Sportfmen, Servants, Ruffians, &c.

S C E N E

At and near Lord LOVEWLL's Country Seat.

Sold by G. WALSH, 19, WOOD-QUAY.



THE
MAID OF THE VALE.

ACT I. SCENE I.

A Beautiful Garden. FANNY discovered at a distance.

A I R.

HOW delightful is the morning,
Nature's richest stores adorning;
All the gay enamell'd ground,
Herbs and flowers each sense regaling;
Every breeze, rich odours stealing,
Spread the grateful fragrance round.

Enter ROBIN.

Robin. Good morning to you Miss Fanny.

Fan. I thank you Robin.

Robin. What are you about? I saw you busy,
and am come to help you.

A

Fan:

2 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

Fan. I'm oblig'd to you : I was but gathering these flowers; how beautiful they look! how sweet they smell! what pity they should fade so soon.

Robin. They are indeed very pretty; but there's a flower that when it is properly cultivated, is much more beautiful, and more lasting; but I'm afraid you don't know it.

Fan. Oh dear! tell me the name of it?

Robin. 'Tis call'd the flower of love.

Fan. I never heard of it; where does it grow?

Robin. It is indeed very scarce, and only to be found grafted in the heart of a faithful lover.

Fan. If that's the flower, I believe its scarce enough, I remember now to have heard of it; but they told me, tho' it look'd so pretty, it was dangerous to gather, so I never sought after it.

Robin. There's a flower something like it, which is reckoned a poison; but the true one you will find in the heart of your faithful *Robin*—take it my dear *Fanny*, and——

Fan. Forbear *Robin*, I can listen no longer to such language; I have told you my sentiments before and beg you will desist.

Robin. What, have you no pity?

Fan. As much as is becoming.

Robin. And no love?

Fan. O yes; if that will content you which I give to a friend, the only love I can receive, or return.

A I R.

A I R.

*See the boasted truth of lovers,
 Like the Arabian bird renown'd:
 Vouch'd by all but none discovers
 Where the wonder may be found.
 Canst thou tell what climes conceal him?
 When he dies and lives again,
 When to me thou shalt reveal him,
 Then my love shall fixt remain.*

[Exit.

ROBIN solus.

Fine airs truly! and so because lady Lucy gives her fine clothes and makes her a companion, she thinks herself too good for me—as certainly she can have no dislike to my person [*settling herself in an affected posture.* and as to my face---I fancy now, that a lively eye and a [*bems*] tolerable figure might please her betters.---But what is most provoking---tho' she ha'nt a shilling to rub another, or a rag of clothes she can call her own, to despise me and my station? I who by private perquisites---by fruit and other things sent to market unknown to his lordship---by the labourers book---the seedman's allowance, and wages, all together make---let me see---near fifty pounds a year, and the curate of the parish has but forty with all his perquisites; besides 120l. I have saved and lent farmer *Stock* on his lease, to pay his daughter's fortune---so my proud miss may go farther and fare worse, and I can turn my cap another way---for there's as good fish in the sea, as ever was caught.

A 2

A I R.

A I R.

*So vain we make the jades,
 By compliments and speeches,
 They flirt and flout, while maids,
 When wives, they wear the breeches,
 The warmer we speak 'em,
 More icy we make 'em
 As hot-beds raise cucumbers cold:
 Now singing then sighing,
 Here laughing, there crying
 Or loud as a jackdaw they'll scold.
 While single, their noses they toss up;
 When married, flout, beator and gossip.
 Now lipping, and nice
 Cog their tongues like the dice;
 Then plague us with vapours and swooning,
 For yes they say no.
 Like weeds, lack the hoe;
 They're saplings that daily need pruning.*

[Exit.

SCENE II.

Another part of the Garden.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

A I R.

*While Fanny's charms my thoughts employ,
 My heart with transport beats;
 When e'er she speaks, I hear with joy
 The language she repeats;
 Her tuneful accents sweetly roll
 No nymph is half so fair;
 Her beauty captivates the soul,
 And makes me oft' despair.*

While

While beauty bears eternal arms.

For that dear that lovely face;

Her anger gives it stronger charms;

Her pity softer grace.

When e'er she smiles, from ocean's stream

A Venus seems to rise

When e'er she frowns, I surely deem

A Pallas from the skies

Enter FANNY.

Lord Lov. Ah! Fanny here! fortunate opportunity! you are abroad early this morning Fanny.

Fan. My lord, I have been gathering flowers to present my lady with, when she rises.

Lord Lov. My dearest girl you are ever giving fresh marks of esteem and gratitude, and be assur'd your constant attention to us shall not be un-rewarded.

Fan. The least remissness in duty, my lord, to benefactors, who have been so liberal, would be unpardonable; especially as duty is the only return I can make your bounty.

Lord Lov. What has been already done Fanny, is but little, compar'd to your deserts, and what I wish [*going to take hold of her hand*] still to do for you.

Fan. Has your lordship any farther commands? [*going.*]

Lord Lov. Why in such haste to be gone? I have something to say,---tell me Fanny, have you ever been in love?

Fan. My lord?

Lord Lov. Come my sweet girl, let me hope the gratitude you shew in your constant endea-

vours to please, is not without some mixture of a more tender nature than that——

Fan. My lord I beg leave to go.

Lord Lov. You must not, I cannot part with you. Oh! my hard fortune that it should be a disgrace to encourage a passion so highly justify'd by the object of it! tell me my dearest *Fanny*, should I love you with the utmost ardour and sincerity——why do you tremble *Fanny*?

Fan. My lord, I cannot stay.

Lord Lov. You must, you shall, I will not lose his fortunate opportunity.

Fan. Indeed my lord I ought not, therefore I will not stay. [Runs off.]

Lord Lov. Foolish girl! yet how graceful was her confusion! she must, she shall be mine—
[Exit.]

Enter PHILLIS.

A I R.

*How hapless is the lovers fate,
Who meets with no return,
But finds her love return'd with hate,
And now must ever mourn.
A girl so gentle, young and tender!
Some help O quickly send her.
How hapless, &c.*

Oh dear me! 'twas not always so—time was when *Robin* was all tenderness and love; ay, then he did not carry his head so high; but now that he has got a little money together by screwing the poor people, that are under him and cheating my lord, he sets up for a gentleman forsooth: the
false

false hearted, conceited fellow! and because miss *Fanny*, a little upstart minx, is made a fine lady of, he prizes her before me, and hardly gives me a civil answer; but I may find an opportunity to be reveng'd of her yet.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

Lord *Lov.* How vexatious! she flew like lightning; ha! this wench's assistance may be useful. O tyrant love! to what condescensions and little artifices dost thou reduce us?—How do you do *Phillis*?

Phil. Thank your lordship, I am very well.

Lord *Lov.* You look as fresh as a new blown rose this morning.

Phil. Your lordship is pleas'd to joke.

Lord *Lov.* Indeed I don't; I have something to say to you.

Phil. La! your honour.

Lord *Lov.* I stand in need of your assistance.

Phil. Suppose he should be in love with me.

[*Aside.*

Lord *Lov.* But before I trust you with the affair, tell me, and tell me sincerely; was you ever in love.

Phil. Sir!—so, so.

[*Aside*

Lord *Lov.* Do you know what it is to be in love?

Phil. Why—why—

Lord *Lov.* Come, come, tell me?

Phil. Why—yes, sir.

Lord *Lov.* And can you pity the pangs that lovers feel?

Phil. Yes, sir.

Lord *Lov.* Then hear me—but I charge you be secret.

Phil.

8 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

Phil. Yes I will, sir;—'tis plain enough he is in love with me. *[Aside.*

Lord Lov. I am deeply enamour'd—and it is in your power-----

Phil. Your lordship may command me freely.

Lord Lov. Very well,---I love-----

Phil. Yes; so your lordship said before.

Lord Lov. And dost thou know the beauteous object of my passion?

Phil. I believe, sir, I can guess.

Lord Lov. As you hope for my future favours, I charge you to be secret.

Phil. Oh! yes. *[Simpering.*

Lord Lov. I love Fanny to distraction.

Phil. Fanny! *[Looks disappointed and confused.*

Lord Lov. Among yourselves you girls frequently talk of your admirers; do you privately mention my passion to her and persuade her to make me a proper return. I have attempted to tell her, but she ran from me to avoid giving an answer---perhaps she will not be backward in speaking her mind to you.

Phil. Please your lordship I must make bold to tell you-----tho' but a poor simple girl---I don't care to do any such thing.

Lord Lov. Pooh! silly; why wont you oblige me? it will make me your friend for ever, and I will reward you beyond your wishes.

Phil. Then, sir, to be sure I will do what your lordship commands.

Lord Lov. Tell her she has inspir'd me with a passion, whose violence I cannot resist,---tell her, that her charming eyes have captivated my heart; tell her I doat upon her and cannot live without her.

Phil. Yes, sir, I'll be sure to say so---but if I am not even with them. *[Aside, retires.*

Lord Lov.

Lord Lov. How absolute a tyrant is this passion !
 I almost blush to be thus subdued, and yet am proud
 of it--'tis an infatuation bordering upon phrenzy--
 reason has no power, every word and thought is
 fondness and Fanny.

A I R.

*Love and reason, foes contending,
 Wage fierce war within my my breast,
 Reason's stings my heart a rending,
 Love has all my soul possess.*

*" Taste (says love) the sweets of beauty
 " Nature fram'd thee to enjoy ;
 Think (says reason) of thy duty,
 " Sensual pleasures quickly cloy.*

*Cease this strife ye powers within me,
 And in blissful peace unite,
 Since the charms divine that win me
 Can to either give delight.*

*Love may revel for a season
 On the blooming rose of youth,
 And must ever join with reason,
 In admiring sense and truth.*

[Exit.

PHILLIS comes forward.

Phil. Tell her ! speak to her--yes to be sure !--I am
 not such a fool neither ; they say love is blind, so it
 seems truly---for I think I have as good pretensions
 to

10 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

to a gentleman sweetheart, as any girl in the parish; the men are all bewitch'd I believe, high and low--- I'll be revenged of my lord I'll warrant him, for I'll go this instant and tell my lady.

Enter Sir JOHN LOFTY.

Sir John. Good morrow pretty lass.

Phil. Oh! this is the gentleman she is going to be married to, this is so lucky, the charmingest opportunity to send it round to my lady---I'll venture it. [*Aside*] I'll make bold to wish you much joy, sir. I will let my lady know directly that you are here: she is goodness itself, you will be vastly happy with her, Heaven bless you both together I say---but I'm afraid---'tis a great pity to be sure---I am very sorry for it---but it's not her fault poor lady!

Sir John. Ha! what does the girl mean?

Phil. Sir I scorn to speak ill of any body, but---if you knew all, sir---it's no business of mine---your servant, sir.

Sir John. Come hither child and tell me what is the matter?

Phil. Why sir, you must know---but you won't tell?

Sir John. No, no.

Phil. My lord will never forgive me if he should know that I told any body.

Sir John. He shall know nothing of the matter.

Phil. For to be sure, it does not become servants to be tattling of their master's and mistress's affairs, and telling the secrets of a family you know, sir.

Sir John.

Sir John. Well well, but you may tell it to me; it seems to concern me.

Phil. It does indeed, Sir; you are going to be one of the family, and so there can be no harm in it.

Sir John. Not in the least; let me know what it is.

Phil. And so I think I may venture to tell you; but I would not willingly do a wrong thing for the whole world.

Sir John. Come come, keep me no longer in suspense.

Phil. You must know, sir, that my lord is fallen desperately in love—

Sir John. Pooh!----is that all?

Phil. All, sir! yes, sir.

Sir John. Well, and who is the lady?

Phil. The lady, sir?---ay that's the case---she is no lady, sir, I assure you.

Sir John. What is she?

Phil. A poor girl that was found an infant down in our vale, which my good old lady took into the house and brought up out of charity, and nobody can tell who she belongs to.

Sir John. Indeed!

Phil. Yes, sir, and my lord is fallen so desperately in love with her that I verily believe he intends to marry her.

Sir John. How to marry her! is that possible?

Phil. I assure you it is very true, sir---I think I shall be even with him now. [Aside.

Sir John. But child how should you know this?

Phil. Sir I heard him say so his own self.

Sir John. Aye!---should it prove so, I must consider

12 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

sider maturely, before I form an alliance in the the family.

Phil. You may depend upon it, sir.

Search through the world, sir, you never will find,

A girl more discreet, or to truth more inclin'd;

Envy and malice I boldly defy,

To prove that I slander, or flatter, or lie,

My simple master---but I'll say no more,

That wheedling creature---I've told you before.

That's all I say,

I wish you a good day

For I cannot stay.

[Exit.

Sir John. Tho' I sincerely love lady *Lucy*, and am perfectly satisfied with the choice I have made, yet, if this girl's tale be true, such an alliance will bring disgrace upon my family---perhaps 'tis not too late to prevent it, I will immediately try; and endeavour to act with a dignity becoming their descendant.

[Exit.

SCENE III. *A Saloon with the prospect of a Garden.*

Enter Lady *Lucy*.

Lady Lu. How slow flies time when fondest expectation hangs upon his wings---not all the rural felicity of this happy spot can impart one moment's peace while the dear object of my love is absent.

Enter

Enter PHILLIS.

Phil. My lady, sir *John Lofly* is come to wait on your ladyship.

Lady Lu. Run, fly; tell him I am impatient to see him.

Phil. Ay, to be sure! my lady is in a great hurry.

[*Aside and Exit.*]

Lady Lu. How sweet is the assurance of a reciprocal affection.

Enter Sir JOHN LOFFY and PHILLIS.

Phil. Pray walk in, sir.

Sir John. On the wings of love I fly to embrace the idol of my affections! how my fond heart hath panted for this meeting!

Lady Lu. And how mine has lamented your tedious absence!

Sir John. But then this fatal intelligence strikes a damp on my flattering prospects of a future happiness.

[*Aside.*]

Lady Lu. Bless me sir *John*, are you not well? your countenance has suddenly lost its usual cheerfulness; pray inform me, what it is affects you?

Sir John. I am to ask your ladyship's pardon, something indeed hangs heavy on my mind. When strong suspicion makes my heart uneasy, I cannot, I would not wish to conceal it.

Lady Lu. What can this mean? suspicions! of whom? pray explain yourself.

Sir John. Your brother, I am inform'd has fix'd his affections on a mean, obscure girl.

Lady Lu. My brother!

Sir John. Nay, more; that he is so extravagantly infatuated, 'tis to be feared he will disgrace his noble family by marrying her.

Lady Lu. Is it possible! who is she?

B

Sir John

Sir *John*. One in the house, whose parents are unknown; is there not such a person?

Lady *Lu*. There is —— yet I know not how to suspect her of such an indiscretion—are you well informed?

Sir *John*. I think I am.

Lady *Lu*. I hope it will not prove so; the girl has a prudence uncommon at her years; then I think I know my brother's principles too well. Yet supposing he should imprudently yield to the force of an unruly passion, and demean himself by so unequal a match; would his misconduct deprive me of your affections?

Sir *John*. I love you with the tenderest, the sincerest passion, I doat on you to distraction, and the thought of losing you is insupportable; and yet, I ought not to bring disgrace upon my antient family? endeavour, before it is too late, to prevent this misfortune; and think how strong that motive must be which can tear me from you.

A I R.

Love and beauty, mildly reigning,

Gently sooth my captive heart;

Rigid honor both disdaining

Furiously plays a tyrant's part.

Fondest love, we may controul,

Or by time, or absence cure;

Sacred honor in the soul,

Should unslain'd thro' life endure.

[Exit.

Lady *Lu*. Amazement?

Phil. Why, my lady, this agrees exactly with what happen'd to me this morning in the garden—my lord wanted to bribe me to assist him.

Lady *Lu*.

Lady Lu. Indeed!

Phil. Notwithstanding Fanny's demure looks in your ladyship's presence, I believe she has more mischief in her heart, than we are aware of, and more art to disguise it.

Lady Lu. Can such be the return for all my care? have I nursed a Serpent in my bosom to sting me in the tenderest part? must I for her lose the man I love?

Phil. There is seldom any good comes of educating girls above their station in life.

Lady Lu. Where is she?

Phil. I will send her to you, and I hope your ladyship will severely reprimand the forward creature.

I hate a proud and saucy flirt

Who flaunts about so gay and vain;

Shall paltry girls, who sprung from dirt,

A noble lord presume to gain?

No longer now 'mong girls we see

Proportion kept in due degree

All ape the airs of quality,

The lisp of the tongue, the tottering tread;

The flirt of the fan, the toss of the head;

They giggle and stare at whatever they meet;

And look so affected, it shocks me to see't.

[Exit]

Lady Lu. I'll send this girl from hence immediately; she shall be reduc'd to her original state of penury and want, to mortify her pride and ambition. To avoid a rupture with my brother, I must stifle my anger a while. Some excuse must be thought of; here she comes—how innocent she looks! the artful hypocrite! but passion would de-

16 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

mean me ; for both my pride and love, prudence must direct at present.

Enter FANNY.

Fan. In obedience to your ladyship's commands.—

Lady Lu. Come hither, *Fanny* ! I hope I shall always find you as good a girl as you have hitherto prov'd, and ready to oblige me.

Fan. Your ladyship makes me blush, to hear you speak so ; my study and delight, is to receive and obey your commands.

Lady Lu. Very well, in return for your good behaviour, I would not willingly omit any opportunity that offers for your advantage ; I have none in my own family ; but my sister *Laura* has taken a great liking to you, and requests to have you with her, which I have comply'd with, to oblige her, and serve you.

Fan. Alas !

Lady Lu. Why don't you speak ?

Fan. If your ladyship does not choose to keep me any longer.—I am sorry my earnest endeavours to please are not acceptable.

Lady Lu. That is not the point. I only part with you to my nearest relation, for your own immediate advantage.

Fan. You are always encreasing my gratitude ; but if your ladyship pleases, I would much rather continue under your protection, than reap the largest benefits elsewhere.

Lady Lu. Do you say this from affection ?

Fan. Indeed I do solemnly avow it.

Lady Lu. If your affection for me, does not consist in words, show the sincerity of it by a ready obedience.

Fan.

Fan. I humbly beg your ladyship's pardon; but does my lord know?

Lady Lu. My lord! 'tis no concern of his; go, and prepare for your immediate departure.

Fan. I will obey you madam—even in this severe command—yet, would it not be uncivil to go?—

Lady Lu. What a civil lass you are grown; but let me hear no more—this instant get ready and be gone.

Fan. How wretched am I to have displeased your ladyship? *[Weeps, and is going,*

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

Lord Lov. Fanny in tears! what can this mean! where are you going? you look disturb'd sister? what has happened?

Fan. My lord—her ladyship is displeased with me; why, I know not—I am not conscious of my offence.

Lady Lu. Dare you appeal from my commands?—be gone this instant!

See a poor, a friendless creature,

Never knew a parent's care;

'Tis too cruel thus to treat her,

Oh! 'tis more than I can bear.

Yes, my lady, I will go,

Since you please to have it so!

Tho' deserted, helpless, poor,

Tho' I beg from door to door;

Gracious Heaven will not desert

An innocent, an honest heart.

[Exit.

148 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

Lord *Lov.* For Heaven's sake what is the meaning of all this?

Lady *Lu.* Nothing but that my sister has desired me to send her *Panny*, and I cannot with politeness refuse her request: it will be greatly to the girl's advantage and as I shall soon leave this place, there is no proper employment for her here.

Lord *Lov.* But sister, there is one difficulty you are not aware of---suppose I don't consent to her going?

Lady *Lu.* No! what can be the reason for so absurd.---

Lord *Lov.* No matter---here she shall stay.

Lady *Lu.* Have you considered what the world would say?

Lord *Lov.* The world is at liberty to say whatever it pleases, I despise its censure or applause.

Lady *Lu.* Indeed!--very extraordinary this! you shew a great regard for your sister.

Lord *Lov.* I have ever shewn you the tenderest regard and sincerest affection--as my sister I highly esteem you---but remember that I will be sole arbiter of my own conduct, and matters of this house. [Exit.

Lady *Lu.* So peremptory! Sir *John's* intelligence was truth then; my brother's designs are too evident, either to ruin the girl, or marry her; but it shall be my aim by every means to prevent his success in either: this obstacle to my wishes shall instantly be removed---must my views of happiness give place to her's?--no--severely shall she feel the vengeance of a disappointed woman.

[Exit.

SCENE

THE MAID OF THE VALE. 19

SCENE IV.

Enter ROBIN.

Robin. Hey day! what a hurry and combustion is here? the whole house is in an uproar! and poor Miss *Fanny* in disgrace; but I cannot now for the life of me find out what she has done, the house-keeper says she believes it is some love affair—who knows but because I am a clever well made fellow and have often been seen speaking to her, but that it's me they suspect she is in love with—ecod I begin to think it is so notwithstanding all her airs and shyness—for I don't know how it is, but there is a certain agreeableness about me that not a girl in the parish is able to withstand—witness poor *Phillis* who before I had said three kind things to her, the blossom was caught as snug as a rat in a trap, but now I think on't, ten to one 'tis that baggage's jealousy has raised all this hubbub by lies and tattles about us both, for women when they get on that scent are mere hedgehogs, prickles at all points that stab without distinction—but talk of the Devil and he'll appear, for here she comes, so I'll e'en get out of her way and seek poor Miss *Fanny* and give her my assistance tho' I lose my place by it—for this is the time to gain her—a good smith strikes while the iron is hot. [Exit.

SCENE V.

A Thicket with a view of the Country.

Enter PHILLIS and SUSAN.

Phil. You are sure you cannot tell where *Fanny* is gone?
Sus.

Suf. Indeed I can't, she went out crying, but I don't know which way, however I am heartily glad her tricks are found out at last.

Pbil. I never knew these upstart favourites come to any good; her mock modesty had so far gain'd upon my lady that no servant was regarded and nothing was right, forsooth, but what she laid and did.

Suf. I wish she was an hundred miles off with all my heart.

Pbil. I can't endure such forward fluts, there's *Robin* the gardener who used to be very fond of me has quite forsaken me and is always dangling after her, I wonder what they can see in her for my part! men have no taste now a-days, to admire such a little paltry chat, that nobody knows.

Suf. I have heard she was found quite an infant, down in our valley.

Pbil. She was so, and I wish my good old lady had sent her to the parish work-house, she would not then have been the cause of so much mischief, and set the family in such an uproar.

Suf. To besure her parents must be thieves, to leave her in that manner.

Pbil. I believe she is some gipsy's brat——

Suf. Hush—as I am alive here she comes! let us watch her.

Enter FANNY.

Fan. Unhappy me, ah! whither shall I turn! or who for pity will direct my steps? in vain I seek to calm my troubled mind thus divid'd 'twixt my love and duty——O how different is the task to form resolves——than to compleat our purpose. When near my lord I deem every conquest

conquest of my heart easy, but when divided from him, my heart enfeebled loses all it's firmness.

RONDEAU.

*In sorrow's lap my tender years,
Were from the cradle bred;
And fortune still averse appears,
In grief my days are led.*

*Repentance, wonder, hope and love,
The pangs I feel impart;
At once! a thousand fears I prove,
That crowd into my heart.
In sorrows lap, &c.*

*While love each vain resolve destroys,
My thoughts unfix'd remain;
For love, alas! no peace enjoys,
But seeks for bliss in vain.
In sorrows lap, &c.*

QUINTET.

Phil. Pray, good madam, what are you a doing?

Pray, dear madam, where are you a going?

Fan. I go to find, a fate more kind---
A happier destiny,

Heaven has, I hope, in store for me.

[going

Phil. See, the fruits of your intrigues,

Suf. Got you gone a thousand leagues.

Enter

Enter ROBIN.

Rob. Stay my dear—Ab Fanny, why,
Will you from your true love fly!

Phil. } Yes, 'tis certain she must go,

Suf. } And her train of lovers too.

Fan. Can you so inhuman be!

To insult my misery:

Have you lost all charity?

Rob. Come, my dear, in me you'll find,

A faithful friend; sincere and kind.

Fan. Come then, Robin, and be my friend;

A poor, a helpless girl defend.

Suf. } Robin pray take her and lead her away

Phil. } His lordship, no doubt, her protector
will pay;

Go on, foolish fellow—for what do
you stay?

Booby, booby, take her away.

Rob. Is she my lord's?

Suf. } Yes, 'tis true—

Phil. } The dainty bit is not for you.

Rob. Stay there, stay there, stay where you
are,

Of other men's girls I'll take no care.

Fan. In my ruin, all things join,

All the world 'gainst me combine.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

L. Lov. Will you leave me! cruel fair!

Thus abandon'd to despair,

Where dost thou go? ah tell me where?

Suf. } With the gard'ner, sir, we guess;

Phil. } He's the bappy, bappy swain;

He alone her heart could gain.

L. Lov.

- L. Lov. *With Robin!*
 Sus. }
 Phil. } *Yes, sir, yes.*
 L. Lov. *Hence ungrateful wretch, begone!*
All my tender thoughts are flown;
Now you'll find, when 'tis too late;
Gentle love will turn to hate.
 Fan. *What will alas! become of me?*
Expos'd to want and misery!
 L. Lov. *Go to thy happy swain.*
 Rob. *Go to my lord again.*
 Fan. *Hear my lord.*
 L. Lov. *No; get you gone.*
 Fan. *Hear me, you—*
 Rob. *No I have done.*
 Fan. *Do you then no pity know?*
 Sus. *None to you will pity shew.*
 Phil. *With one lover not content!*
 Rob. *Now your jilting you'll repent.*
 All Four. *None to you will pity shew.*
 Fan. *Gracious Heaven some pity shew.*
-

A C T II.

SCENE I. *A Wood.*

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

Lord Lov. Where can she be! Oh! cursed foolish jealousy! My impetuous temper too hastily took fire! like a mad-man I spurned her from me, and now find her innocent. I feel I cannot live without

24 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

without her; nor will rest, till I have discovered her.

Where is my dearest Fanny gone?

Where is the lovely wanderer flown?

How could my stubborn heart,

All such a rigid part?

Barbrous fate! fortune severe!

Where is my love? Ah! tell me where.

SCENE II. *Another part of the Wood.*

Enter SIR JOHN LOFTY, and FANNY guarded by some armed men.

Sir John. Conduct this creature carefully to town: and deliver her safe to the person to whom this letter is directed.

Fan. Hear me, sir, in pity.

Sir John. Away with her this instant, and your reward shall equal your diligence. [Exit.

Fan. Alas, alas! what will become of me?

[Exeunt.

Enter ROBIN.

Oh! poor dear Miss Fanny! where can they be going with her? what a fool was I to believe those artful hussies—I must be jealous truly! and so have, perhaps, lost her for ever; but I will follow and endeavour to relieve her, tho' I die for it.—O! lucky opportunity! here are some sportsmen; I will apply to them for help.

Enter SPORTSMEN.

Rob. Let me beseech you, good gentlemen, to have

have compassion on an innocent girl, and save her from villains; they have carried away my poor sister, and will certainly either ravish, or murder her.

1st. Sportsf. Which way are they gone?

Rob. By that tree.

2d. Sportsf. How long since?

Rob. This moment, they are hardly out of sight; this way, you will soon overtake them; I'll shew you.

Fanny and her guard are seen at the farther end of the stage, the sportsmen enter, and attack them. *Fanny* runs to the front of the the stage; the guards are beaten off, and one of them drops his sword.

Fan. *Robin* has procur'd my liberty! but my unkind lord, has cruelly abandoned me, to distress and persecution.

Rob. My dear *Fanny*!

Fan. You have preserv'd my life.

Rob. May I hope you will love me?

Fan. Give me time to recover myself,—I am greatly terrified.

Rob. Come home with me, and rest yourself.
—Gentlemen, I return you a thousand thanks.

1st. Sportsf. Take care of your sister for the future.

2d. Sportsf. Where do you live?

Rob. At lord *Lovewell's*.

1st. Sportsf. Oh!—here's my lord.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

2d. Sportsf. Your lordships most obedient.

C

Lord

Lord *Low*. Gentlemen, your most humble servant—Ha! *Fanny* here!

1st. Sportsf. Does this pretty lass belong to your lordship?

Lord *Low*. Yes, sir.—How came she here?

2d. Sportsf. Some men were forcing her away, and we prevented them.

Lord *Low*. I'm much oblig'd to you.

1st. Sportsf. We are glad to have done any service that is acceptable to your lordship, and wish you a good day.

Lord *Low*. I return you many thanks—I wish you good sport.

2d. Sportsf. You seem to promise yourself, some or I am much mistaken. [*Aside*.

Exeunt sportsmen.

Lord *Low*. So transporting is my joy, at having recover'd my belov'd inestimable *Fanny*! my lost, lamented charmer! that I am unable to give it utterance! but if my adorable girl is but propitious to my love, no earthly power shall sever us again. Let us retire from this uncouth scene, to one more suited to refresh your wearied spirits, where every measure henceforth shall conduce to promote your felicity, and I will guard you from all future attempts.

Exeunt *Low*. and *Fan*.

Rob. Fire and furies! my master my rival! oh, what will become of poor Robin?—just in the lucky minute, when I had saved her from being ran away with, comes my lord and snatches the precious morsel out of my mouth, when I thought myself sure of it. No man but his lordship himself, where he six foot high, shou'd have taken her from me without a bout of bruising for her. [*Setting himself in a boxing*

boxing attitude] What plaguy ill luck ! I shall go mad for vexation—I'm quite desperate—I'll go hang myself—or drown myself—or—no—I'll die like a gentleman and kill myself with this sword, (*takes the sword with the ruffian dropp'd*) for what is life without Fanny.

A I R.

Oh! my Fanny, thy true swain
Will for thee his life resign?
But my trembling heart says no,
Pray forbear, ah! don't do so.
Rise my courage, fear defy,
Now I am resolv'd to die.

[*going to stab himself.*

Enter KREIGSMAN.

Kreigf. Hault ! (*stops him*) dee divel ! vat dis ?

Rob. Pray, sir, let me alone ; I am a desperate man.

Kreigf. You be ein coward, ein boldroon, to run dyself drew for tesbair—If thou wilt tie as ein clever onest mans, come to de vars, and tie as ein soldier.

Rob. Yes——captain,—I will go along with you, and turn soldier, 'tis the only way to forget Fanny.

Kreigf. Aw! vat is dat Fanny ?

Rob. 'Tis a very pretty young girl, that I am in love with——and I have lost her.

Kreigf. Vat ! vill de english mans pee in tesbair for dee oomans ! de germans care nicht apout 'em, dey vil tie in de vars vid onnor, put

28 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

never for sight tryfels. Come, come vid me—
dere pe oomans enough every were.

Rob. Pray, fir, who are you?

Kreigf. I pe a good soldier, dat serve mein
general, I have been in england pefore, and now
pe come again to search for ein young *ferr*.

Rob. I don't understand you; but be what
you will, I'll go along with you: I can't bear
to stay here.—it was cruel to snatch her
away, just when—

Kreigf. Friend, friend, tinck nicht more of
de oomans, come vid me to de vars, and thou
shalt pe happy, in de camb, dere pe all kind of
tiveringion.

A I R.

*Dere pe de drumbets, horns, and trums,
Dere pe guittars, and dere pe fifes,
And dey altogether blay:
Dere de nimpel lasses comes,
Singing tancing night and tey.*

*Ven de enemy pe var,
Trinka vine vid cholly poys;
If de enemy come near,
Den pe husb, and make no noise.*

*Come to de camb, trive love away;
I'll go to vight put you may stay,
Trink, and sing, tance and blay;
And pe merry night and tay.*

[Exeunt.]

SCENE III. A Parlour.

Enter Lady LUCY, and Sir JOHN LOFTY.

Lady Lu. You have convey'd the troublesome
girl

girl away then?

Sir John. I have sent her guarded to town:

Lady Lu. May I believe you are now satisfied?

Sir John. Yes, my dearest life, I am quite easy and happy.

Lady Lu. I fear the fickleness of your temper: I must confess you had reason to be offended, but not with me.

Sir John. Forgive me. Passion too often makes us propose things in haste, which in our cooler moments, we find impossible to execute. This nice trial of my heart, has only convinc'd me, that I adore you with a sincerity and vehemence, which will triumph over every other consideration. At present I must leave your ladyship to give farther orders for the close confinement of this girl, where your brother may never see her more: this being absolutely necessary for the security of our future happiness.

[Exit.

Enter PHILLIS and SUSAN.

Sus. Well, I vow I could never have thought of such a strange thing happening.

Phil. I don't know how to tell it to my lady, it will be very disagreeable to her.

Susan. We may tell it between us.

Lady Lu. What is the meaning of that whispering?

Phil. Madam, does your ladyship know that *Fanny*—

Lady Lu. Yes, yes; I know she is gone from hence.

Phil. But since that—do you tell the rest.
[to Susan.]

Lady Lu. Has any thing particular happen'd?

Phil. Yes, and please your ladyship; soon after she was sent away.—I have begun, now 'tis your turn.
[to Phillis.]

Lady Lu. Why do you hesitate? speak out.

Phil. Your ladyship must know ———

Lady Lu. What must I know?

Phil. That she is come back again.

Lady Lu. How! come back again?

Phil. Yes, my lady.

Lady Lu. Come back again!—why?—through what means? where is she?

Phil. My lord has lock'd her up.

Lady Lu. Is it possible sir *John* wou'd deceive me? or has my headstrong brother us'd some violence?—Run you and find sir *John*, tell him, I wish to speak with him this instant. [to Phillis.]

Phil. Yes, my lady.

Lady Lu. Go you to my brother, and tell him, I desire the favour of seeing him directly.

[to Susan.] Yet stay—come back again—I have not yet determin'd what I shall say, I must consider;—first endeavour to learn how *Fanny* is employ'd; if any person be with her, and how she brooks her present situation, that from thence I may judge in what manner it will be prudent to proceed.

Phil. We are gone, madam.

[Exeunt *Phil.* and *Sus.*]

Lady Lu. Be quick and bring me word here. How vexatious! to find that my mistaken tenderness and bounty, have serv'd but to nurse a foe to my pride and future happiness.

DUETTO.

DUETTO.

PHILLIS runs on.

Phil. Thro' the key-hole I was peeping,
 There I saw the girl a weeping;
 First she ran'd, and then look'd sad
 I believe she's gone stark mad.

[Runs off.]

SSUAN runs on.

Suf. Round the room, I saw her walking,
 Wringing thus her hands and talking;
 Then she'd stop, and wildly stare,
 Like a creature in despair.

Re-enter PHILLIS.

Phil. Look, I see his lordship come,
 He is hast'ning to the room;
 Some glad tidings sure he bears,
 That will dry his favourite's tears.

Re-enter SUSAN.

Suf. Tho' I met my lord just now,
 Yet I could not speak, I vow,
 Nor have I the message told,
 He might think I was too bold.

Phil. See Fanny's coming out—
 Where can she be roving?

Suf. His lordship follows quick.
 They seem very loving.

Both 'Tis an intricate affair
 We had better to declare,
 We'll have nothing more to do.

} (Aside.

Madam

*Madam. we are forc'd to own,
There is nothing can be done,
Please to give us leave to go.* } *Exeunt.*

Lady Lu. Perplexing beyond measure!—I will see sir *John* immediately, and ask his counsel.—Some immediate expedient must be devis'd, effectually to get rid of this obstacle to our general peace. *Exit.*

SCENE IV. *A Chamber.*

LORD LOVEWELL and FANNY discover'd.

Fan. My lord, I humbly beg permission to go—
Lord Lov. Where?

Fan. To throw myself at my lady's feet, and implore her forgiveness for the confusion and uneasiness I have innocently occasion'd.

Lord Lov. You shall not do it.—Her present warmth of temper, may influence her to treat you in such a manner, as her cooler reason wou'd, I'm confident, disdain.

Fan. Yet surely, my lord, I ought to try; if she insists upon my going, I cannot stay; 'tis my duty to obey her.

Lord Lov. My dearest *Fanny* you are too condescending.

Fan. Pardon me my lord, I do not merit your praise—I should have gone without hesitation to lady *Laura*; on her sister's first command; and not have been the author of discord in a family where I owe such obligations.

Lord Lov. Come, come, no more of this; my sister will shortly be gone, and you shall stay and command here.

Fan.

Fan. My lord! —

Lord Lov. Say you will love me, and I will place you above the reach of malice or reproach; my whole fortune shall be at your disposal.

Fan. For pity's sake, my lord, no more.

Lord Lov. Come my charmer, say you will consent, and seal it with a kiss.

Fan. Pray my lord, forbear, lest forget the respect due to you.

Lord Lov. Equipage and splendor shall attend you.

Fan. I disdain them. Tho' poor and friendless, I will not purchase grandeur with infamy.

Lord Lov. 'Tis in vain to deny me — you must — you shall.

Fan. For pity's sake, forbear — good Heaven protect me.

A I R.

*Off my lord, pray forbear, let me go,
These are freedoms no maid must allow,
Too severe, too severe is the smart,
And the anguish that rends my poor heart.
Unhappy me, by ill's enclos'd?
To ev'ry insult thus expos'd.*

No my lord, to virtue true,

All due respect I'll shew;

What honor dictates still pursue,

Away — unhand me — let me go.

[Exit

Lord Lov. How cowardly is vice! this girl's superior virtue appears with such a dignity, that it makes me despicable to myself. How charming was her honest indignation! Had I found her easy and complying, she might have gratifi'd my passion; but could not have raised my admiration.

Wherefore

34 THE MAID OF THE VALE.

Wherefore fortune has thy lavish hand bestow'd
on *Fanny* every female charm! beauty un-
match'd! and virtue scarcely human! yet blind-
ly plac'd her rank so low? Yet to marry a
woman whom the world would treat with con-
tempt—no,—no,—it must not be—I cannot
bear the thought—she shall go to my sister, and
I will go to town; in the variety of amuse-
ments, I hope I shall soon forget her; she will
be properly situated—and I shall—I'll think no
more; but give orders for my journey—and
make my sister and her lover easy, by this con-
quest over my inclinations. [Exit.

SCENE V.

A Court-yard before Lord LOVEWELL's house.

Enter KREIGSMAN.

Kreigf. Aw! dis is de blace (*knocks at the gate.*

Enter a Servant

Whose house is dis?

Serv. Sir.

Kreigf. Who is de maister of dis house?

Serv. Lord *Lovewell*, sir.

Kreigf. Aw! Tas is right; I voud speak vid him

Serv. I will let him know—my lord is com-
ming this way. [Exit.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

Kreigf. Are you de maister of this house, mein
herr.

Lord *Lov.* Sir, the house is mine.

Kreigf. I vou'd sbake vid you.

Lord *Lov.* I am at your service.

Kreigf.

Kreigf. How long have you peen de maister of it?

Lord Lov. I inherited it of my father; it has been in my family for many ages.

Kreigf. Aw! tas is good. I have peen in dis condry before, and den der vas loose.—

Lord Lov. Stay, sir; before you proceed, I must desire to know, why you ask these questions, and by whom commission'd?

Kreigf. Py mein badron?

Lord Lov. Who is your patron?

Kreigf. Ein, who ist not afraid or asham'd to pe known to all de lords in de vorld—He is general of de cavalry.

Lord Lov. Very well—now proceed.

Kreigf. Mein herr—her vas—(day—how long? Aw! de many years bast—der vas—aw der divel—dis great blague to de germans to sbake your english; dake dese babers mein herr dey will dalk blainer—I pelieven dan me. (*lord Lovewell inspects them*) Aw! If I pring mein general some good news, he will brefer me in de army, and I might come to pe ein general myself.

Lord Lov. What do I see?—and yet it cannot be—my fond hopes but mislead me—the time seems to correspond; but then the name—'Tis worth enquiry however, if you will follow me monsieur—

Kreigf. Der divel! monsieur! I pein german—I pe nicht Monsieur—you must call me herr—never you call ein german monsieur.

Lord Love Well then, herr! go with me into the house; I will send for a person, who can better satisfy your enquiries than myself.

Kreigf. Aw! vat berson?

Lord

Lord *Lov.* One that remembers every trans-
action in this family, for more than double
the time your letters mention; an elderly
woman.

Kreigf. Ein old oomans?

Lord *Lov.* Ouy monsieur.

Kreigf. Der divell! ich nitcht monsieur.

Lord *Lov.* I beg your pardon—but this
woman—

Kreigf. De old oomans nitcht do mein badron's
business—I vant de young ferr.

Lord *Lov.* There is a young one too, who
may perhaps—Fond busy hopes press not
too far.

Kreigf. De young one—aw? dat vill be
good—

Lord *Lov.* Come, follow me.

Kreigf. Hark you friend—have you good
rhine vine in de house.

Lord *Lov.* Yes, plenty.

Kreigf. Aw! tas is right, to trinka de rhine
vine pe very good for de healt.

Lord *Lov.* You shall have as much as you
please.

Kreigf. Hark you friend, is the young ferr
handsom.

Lord *Lov.* Handsome.

A I R.

*Come and see the lovely creature,
My delisht, and pride of nature!
Sparkling eyes, to blifs inviting,
Ev'ry glance the heart delighting,
None with her we can compare,
She is the fairest of the fair.*

[Exeunt.

S C E N E.

SCENE VI. *A Valley.*

Enter FANNY.

I am weary and can go no farther; I'll rest a-while under the shade of these trees. From birth I have been the sport of fortune: the base designs of my lord, wound me to the heart—ungenerous man! to seek the ruin of a defenceless orphan!—Did I but know my parents, I might fly to their protection, they wou'd correct my inexperienc'd youth, if it err'd; but that happiness is denied, and I am quite destitute. My eyes grow heavy; I will indulge the call of friendly sleep, to ease my agitated mind; and may the guardian powers of innocence protect me.

A I R.

*Come balmy sleep, relieve my woes,
In thy bands, my eye lids close;
To my breast bring soft repose* }

[Sleeps.]

Enter KREIGSMAN and Servant.

Serv. This was the way my lord was informed she went,—if we cou'd but find her.

Kreigf. Aw! and if she broves to pe de oomans I vant, I vill ave de bleasure do kill mein batron vid choy.

Serv. Let us look farther on —

Kreigf. Aw! who is dis? [seeing Fanny.]

Serv. 'Tis her, and asleep — the very person we were looking for. — Will you please, sir,

D.

to

to stay here and watch her, while I go and acquaint my lord. [Exit.

Kreigf. Yaw, yaw, ! mein schätz.

Fan. (*Dreaming sings*)

Come and save your helpless child.

Kreigf. Ich pelieven she call me. — no — she is fleeben — Aw ! fleeben on, mein schätz.

Fan. (*Dreaming sings*)

Come and save your helpless child.

Enter PHILLIS and SUSAN : they stand observing KREIGSMAN.

Kreigf. De boor little young ferr flaffen, and call for her baba ! —

Phil. So, so, fine doings truly !

Suf. Well done soldier.

Phil. How came you here ?

Kreigf. Oomans, vat do you vant here ?

Suf. He's a man of taste.

Kreigf. Oomans begone —

Fan. (*Waking*) Where am I ? — what man is that ?

Suf. And don't you know ?

Fan. Pray, sir, who are you ?

Phil. Ah ! you artful creature.

Suf. You need not make it so strange ; we saw you plain enough.

Fan. Indeed, indeed, I never saw him before

Phil. In good truth, you are a very confident baggage.

Suf. So, mr. soldier, you was amusing yourself with this young girl —

Kreigf. Der divell ! — vat is dat to you.

Phil. Take her to the camp with you —

Kreigf.

Kreigf. Vat de diavel does de oomans vant?—
get you gone apout your pussiness.

Suf. We have seen enough miss, to convince
us.

Fan. I cannot guess your meaning.

Phil. Poor innocent thing!

QUINTE T.

Pil. } *Madam, we have seen it all,*

Suf. } *As upon the bank you lay,
With a soldier stout and tall,
You divert the hours away.*

Fan. *Do I dream? how came I here?*

Ah! will fate be still severe?

Kreigf. *Dis young ferra belong to me,*

[*To Phil. and Suf.*

Get you gone, away, away;

I vid her alone vil sday—

From mein badron I pe come,

[*To Fan.*

For to bring you safely home.

Pray who are you, sir?

Fan. *I'm a soldier—*

Phil. } *Your dear lover.*

Suf. } *I pe sent to—*

Kreigf. } *Yes, we saw you.*

Phil. } *Let me shake—mein general—*

Suf. } *We can't believe you;*

Kreigf. } *He did send me.*

Phil. } *It is not true.*

Suf. } *Here to find—*

Kreigf. } *Here to find—*

Phil. } He don't know what to say.
 Suf. }
 Kreigl. Blague confound you, get you away.
 Blague confound you, get away.
 Phil. } Saucy fellow scurvey knave! [to him
 Suf. } My lord shall know how you behave.
 [to her.
 Fan. } { Arm'd in conscious innocence,
 { I despise your insolence.
 Kreigl. } { Oomans, oomans; get ye hence;
 { Curse your rude inbertinenee.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

L. Lov. Ah! my charmer, come with me,
 Come and taste felicity;
 Ev'ry fear and doubt shall cease,
 Ev'ry hour bring joy and peace.
 (Foolish girls I sent him here,
 Go, and no more interfere)
 Saucy wenches, hence begone.
 Phil. 'Tis provoking! can it be?
 Suf. Well he'll heartily repent.
 Fan. Must I know more misery!
 Will stern fortune ne'er relent?
 L. Lov. Come, my dearest you shall see.
 Kreigl. Pleasure, joy, and true content.

A C T III.

SCENE I. A Parlour.

Enter Lady LUCY, Sir JOHN and SUSAN.

Lady Lu. Is this possible?]

Suf.

Susan. Indeed, my lady, it was just as I tell you. It would make one die with laughing, to think that my lord should pretend to be so much in love with Fanny, and then leave her with a foreign soldier.

Sir John. Surely his love cannot be so violent, as we imagined it to be. Who can this soldier be?

Susan. I don't know. My lord and he seem to understand one another very well.

Lady Lu. I suppose my brother has properly considered the affair, and provided a husband for her.

Sir John. The more I think of it, the more extraordinary it appears, in every circumstance.

Sus. I take it to be so common a case, that I am not in the least surpriz'd at it.

A I R.

“ Some men with artful praise,
To girls will sigh and whine ;
And vain ideas raise,
To serve a base design.

The flatter'd lass,
Consults her glass,
And thinks her charms divine ;
Young girls conceit assuming,
Makes lovers more presuming.
For cunning and false are the men,
You cannot believe one in ten.

How soon the delusion appears !
The arch deceiver,
Soon will leave her,
Regardless of her tears.

*Young maids in time take warning,
Such fly deluders scorning;
From flattery turn your ear,
Disdain it's tales to hear,
For cunning and false are the men
You cannot believe one in ten.*

Enter a Servant with a letter.

Serv. For your ladyship. Exit.

Lady Lu. 'Tis my brother's hand, will you give me leave, sir John? (*Reads*) "Let my sister's, and sir John's happiness, be no longer delay'd by scrupulous tears for my honor and conduct. Fanny is disposed of, and my affections are plac'd on a lady of birth and family, the daughter of an eminent general. I shall soon introduce her; and intend to complete the ceremony this day; if my friend's happiness may be confirmed at the same time, it will double that of

"Your affectionate brother,

LOVEWELL."

Sir John. Fortunate event! may we rely on this?

Lady Lu. You may — I know my brother's honor; he will not falsify his word.

Sir John. Then every obstacle is removed, and I am truly happy. Let us then, my dearest angel hasten the happy union; nor leave it in the power of capricious fortune farther, to interrupt our expected joys.

AIR

A I R.

*Doubts and fears are gone,
But sweet content remains;
Sorrow away is flown,
And love triumphant reigns.*

In those soft smiles, my fair.

In those consenting eyes,

I see the end of care,

And pledge of future joys.

[Exit.

Lady Lu. What unexpected happiness do I feel? on finding those clouds dispell'd, which so lately obscur'd my views of bliss. Who cou'd have imagin'd that my brother wou'd so easily conquer his violent attachment to Fanny? but yet, more strange! who can the lady be?

Enter PHILLIS.

Phil. Madam, madam! has your ladyship heard the news?

Lady Lu. What news?

Phil. That my lord is going to be married to Fanny.

Lady Lu. Pshaw! foolish—how can you possibly speak so absurdly?

Phil. Because I was just now told, that he had ordered the steward to get every thing for a wedding as fast as possible.

Lady Lu. I know it—it is for mine.

Phil. Indeed, I was told for certain that he order'd it for his own.

Lady Lu. That may be too; for he is to be married to a lady of rank and family.

Phil.

Phil. La madam ! how can that be, when--
Lady Lu. Prithee never trouble thy inquisitive brain how it comes about ; be satisfied that it is so.

Phil. And *Fanny*——

Lady Lu. Is otherwise disposed of——but I desire to be entertain'd no farther about her.

Phil. But madam.

Lady Lu. No more I say—begone—I will not suffer the smallest doubt to darken the serene prospect of my approaching felicity.

Exit.

Phil. So miss *Fanny* ! your high airs will be pull'd down at last ; my lord has no farther occasion for you.—I am glad of it—I thought how matters were going when I saw my lord so intimate with the strange soldier—I would fain see her once again methinks ; I suppose I shall find her hankering about my lord's dressing-room—It would be rude, not to bid the lady good by—yes—this is generally the end of all such conceited things, as have a better opinion of themselves than any body else has !—a saucy minx, to pretend to set herself up above me, and steal every girl's sweetheart in the parish !—Oh ! here's *Robin* ; she inveigled him too ; now she's sent a packing, he may come simpering to me again---and if he does!--!--but hold—I'll make no rash resolutions, for fear of the worst.

Enter *ROBIN*.

Rob. But mrs. *Phillis*, (*with affectation*) is this true that I've heard just now ?

Phil.

Phil. And pray *mr. Robin*, (*taking him off*) what is it you have heard?

Rob. Why, that my lord is going to be married to some great lady.

Phil. Yes, it is very true; and is this all you have heard.

Rob. Yes.

Phil. Then I can tell you more news, you may take leave of your fine miss *Fanny*.

Rob. Miss *Fanny*! why so?

Phil. Because she is going to be married, and sent away the lord knows where, and you will never see her pretty face more. Poor man how I pity you! now I'll torture him in my turn. [*Aside.*]

Rob. Married! 'sdeath to whom?

Phil. To an outlandish soldier.—She must now learn to wash her own linen, with her nice soft hands, and trudge after the army into foreign parts thro' thick and thin, and I must say 'tis more befitting her, than setting up for a fine lady.

Rob. Fire and faggots! there's no bearing this, (*Struts about in a rage*) but what place is she going to?

Phil. Among the mallatoes and blackymoor's they say—but I think such a loving sweetheart as you should follow her and try, who knows but she'd leave her husband thro' pity, to make a soldier of you, and carry you under a brown musket to the wars.

Rob. Don't torment me, *mrs. Phillis* in this cruel manner, I must own, I am sorely griev'd for her.

Phil. O! my poor fellow!—so you've lost your deary, *ha, ha, ha!* then I am very glad

of.

(of it;—and since you won't follow her to the wars, but love to keep your bones in a whole skin, I suppose I shall have you cringing to me again, with a smiling face and a wheedling story—~~and then~~ a squeeze of my hand, to make me remember it.

Rob. Well; and supposing 'all this shou'd happen, wou'd you not be kind *mr. Phillis*?

Phil. I dont know at present: it will depend upon the humour I may be in. But I think what a false hearted creature you have been! but who knows what may happen? repentance may do something—yet I don't promise—no! no!—nor I don't deny—I'm a very good-natur'd.

A T R.

My heart is soft, relenting,

And easy to regain;

Your broken vows repenting,

A pardon may obtain,

Ah! poor forsaken fellow!

And must you wear the willow?

Come, never pine and grieve,

Don't despair, I may forgive. [Exit.

Rob. Hard fortune! to lose my dear *Fanny* thus; but since things are so, 'tis a folly to grieve, and I am resolv'd not to break my heart any more for the finest she in the nation. Thank my stars, 'tis not so brittle stuff as that neither, *Phillis* is certainly a sprightly, tight, pretty lass, and if she and I hit it again, (as I think there is little danger)

danger) well and good—if not, there are pretty girls in plenty, and a man of my figure and cleverness may have his choice.

A I R.

O ladies lovely creatures!

Your wit, your shape, your features,
Are all divine:

But still changing, feigning,

The man who seeks your meaning,

Goes out the sea to fathom

Without lead, or line;

Your charms are form'd to please us,

You spread the line to seize us,

And when we get into the net,

Why then you vex and teize us. [Exit

SCENE II. A Parlour.

Enter Lord LOVEWELL, KREIGSMAN, and
a Servant with a bottle and glass.

Lord Lov. Set down the wine, and leave
us. [Exit serv.

Kreigs. Dis is all good luck—der divel! vie
you nicht trinka?

Lord Lov. Pray excuse me! I cannot in the
morning.

Kreigs. De good rhine vine never hurt any
pody. [Drinks.

Lord Lov. When she was found an infant down
in our yale, my mother order'd the tenderest
care to be taken of her; and her compassion
being farther excited by the appearance of the
things found about her, denoting her above the
common

common rank, had her named *Fanny*, after herself. At her death, she recommended the child to mine, and my sister's care. I went shortly after on my travels, and on my return, found her the most accomplish'd creature I ever saw; she having shar'd, by my mother's imjunctions, in the various branches of education bestowed on my sisters, and profited of them with uncommon success.

Kreigf. She is her mother's picture. Mein badron have sent many letters, but cou'd never hear of her; put ven his son vas tie, he did send me to find her.

Lord Lov. (*Looking on the papers*) The mark on her neck.

Kreigf. I wish you choy of dat, [*Drinks.*

Lord Lov. The things found with her.

Kreigf. Choy of dat, [*Drinks.*

Lord Lov. The time, the place, all correspond, and fully prove, my dear *Fanny*, my lovely girl, is of illustrious birth.

Kreigf. Aw! prave english man! mein leeber, herr! I wish you choy of altogether, [*Drinks*

Lord Lov. My happiness is now almost complete—The ardent wishes of my heart nearly accomplish'd! I fly to tell her the joyfull discovery, since her consent, which my fond soul anticipates, alone is wanting to confirm my bliss, and crown that union the world shall now applaud. [*Exit.*

Kreigf. I vil sbake vid her, and ten I vil go tirectly to the general mein badron, and vight de durks—I nicht live, but ven I be chopping off de heads of de enemy.

A I R.

*Aw! whaut a bleasure, choy, and telight,
Dis to be marching out to the vight;
Drenches pe open, foes be in sight:
Ven all de colours flying before,
And de loud dundering cannons roar.*

*Quic to de preach we mount sword in hand,
Cutting and slasbing all dat vid stand;
I pe most hpppy, ven I go vight,
Var is my bleasure, choy and delight. [Exit.*

Enter FANNY.

How am I agitated with a crowd of fears! fortune seems to sport with my calamities!—yet my nurse spoke so urgent, so persuasive, 'tis very strange!

Enter PHILLIS.

Phil. Your ladyship's most obedient, is there any services I can do for your ladyship, before your ladyship goes away?

Fan. I do not understand you.

Phil. No! sure your ladyship has a pretty sound with it—and my lord has a very pretty look—and your ladyship has a very pretty look—and I dare say, you wou'd have made a very pretty couple.

Fan. How have I deserv'd this treatment? I never injured you.

Phil. It never happened to be in your ladyship's power—and yet 'tis a very great pity—for your ladyship, to be sure, would have made

E

a

a grand figure, as mistress of this family, with your music, and your dancing, and your french gabble and your other learning—I hope tho' you won't settle a great way off—we shall see you sometimes!—oh! yonder is my lord—your lord I mean; I beg your ladyship's pardon—you may have some private business, before you go away, for ever; I am sorry I am oblig'd to make my visit so short. Your ladyship's most obedient servant. Exit.

Fan. How shall I behave.—whither shall I turn?

A I R.

*Tho' in my breast contending,
Tumultuous passions roll;
My heart with fears thus rending,
Love has possess'd my soul.*

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

Lord *Lov.* Surely you are not going my dearest *Fanny*?

Fan. I know not my lord, how—I am entirely at a loss; yet I have been assur'd, on your lordships honor, I might venture to come here, without apprehension of danger.

Lord *Lov.* You may, indeed.

Fan. Then I wait your commands.

Lord *Lov.* Why do you tremble so? I want you to get a nosegay.

Fan. Yes, my lord.

[going.

Lord *Lov.* You dont enquire, who it is for?

Fan. 'Tis my duty to obey, without enquiring.

[going.

Lord

Lord *Lov.* Stay — you have more right to know it, than any person ; the nolegay is for my bride.

Fan. Alas !

[Sighs.

Lord *Lov.* How ! is my approaching happiness disagreeable to you ?

Fan. No, my lord ; 'tis my sincerest, my most earnest wish, may you enjoy unbounded felicity.

[going.

Lord *Lov.* What ! will you not wait to know who she is ?

Fan. I know she will be the happiest of women ; it does not become me to enquire farther

Lord *Lov.* You are more concern'd in it than you at present imagine ; her name is *Louisa* ; she is more beautiful than *Fabling Fancy* e'er conceived, or luxurient pencil cou'd delineate ! — but matchless excellence ! — the beauties of her mind far excell the charms of her person.

Fan. For pity's sake permit me to depart.

Lord *Lov.* I love her with unbounded ardour ! never to be abated (*kneels, takes hold of her hand*) you are my charming *Louisa*, the idol of my soul.

Fan. Are then, my misfortunes become your sport ? and can your noble mind stoop to deride me ?

Lord *Lov.* By the bright flame that glows within my bosom. 'tis truth I tell you — oh ! stop those tears.

Fan. No : let them plead for me ; let them excite your compassion, for a helpless orphan ; exposed to all the insults of cruel fortune, and persecuted by every means that malice and envy can invent. Let me conjure you my lord, by the

name of your honoured mother--think of the noble precepts she taught, think of her dying request, and cease, O! cease, to torment me.

Lord Lov. By the dear memory of her you have invoked, I do not, cannot attempt to deceive you. Your name is Louisa; your father an eminent general of noble birth. 'Tis he sent the officer you saw, in search of you; come with me, he is ready to clear every doubt, by the most convincing proofs.

Fan. Do not, my honoured lord, delude or betray me——how my heart throbs!——what can I think?——what can I say?

Lord Lov. Compose yourself, my adored Louisa; and believe it the reward of gracious heaven, bestowed on innocence and virtue.

Fan. Am I not Fanny! a poor and friendless orphan?

Lord Lov. No. You are my Louisa, the idol of my heart.

Fan. May I believe? may I give way to hope?

Lord Lov. Depend upon my honor, my sincerity, and my love. Banish every fear, the proofs are waiting to convince you, and your consent alone is wanting to make my happiness complete.

Fan. I fear you have read too plainly the sentiments of my inexperienced heart——I will no longer doubt, but rely upon your honor.

Lord Lov. Thus let me seize your hand as the dear pledge of every joy.

A I R.

*Thus the sun at morn appearing,
Darts around a splended ray:
All the face of nature cheering.
In promise of a glorious day.*

Exeunt.

SCENE

SCENE IV. *A Grand-Hall*

Enter Lady LUCY, Sir JOHN LOFTY,
PHILLIS, SUSAN, and ROBIN.

Lady Lu. It is not possible—I cannot believe it,—my brother would not attempt so gross an imposition.

Sir John. I am unwilling to think he would, after the assurances he has given.

Phil. My lord and Fanny, has been in the dressing-room some time.

Sus. They are just gone very lovingly together into the parlour, where the soldier is.

Phil. I will engage it will prove so.

Sus. I am sure of it.

Rob. Now it is my thoughts, my lord is too much of of a gentleman, to play tricks,

Enter Lord LOVEWELL.

Lord Lov. Every thing is prepared; let us conclude the ceremony without more delay.

Lady Lu. Where is your bride?

Lord Lov. She is at hand.

Sir John. My lord, I cannot help looking on this affair in a serious light.

Lord Lov. A few moments shall convince you, that I agree to your opinion; and am going to produce the proof of it. [Exit.

Sir John. I cannot help observing, that there is something very mysterious in all this.

Lady Lu. After this public declaration, I have not a doubt remaining.

A door opens in the Back Scene.

Enter FANNY, handed by Lord LOVEWELL, KREIGSMAN, and an old WOMAN following them.

Phil. There my lady!

Suf. There, sir! just as I said.

Lady Lu. Imposing deceitful man! [*to L. Lov.*

Sir John. Is this, my lord, the behaviour of a man of honour? 'tis an insult that demands——

Lord Lov. If you find it such, you shall have ample satisfaction. But these testimonials, and this old woman, who found my dearest *Louisa*, and the valuable things upon her; will give you incontestible proofs, and the fullest satisfaction, concerning her birth and family. Examine them attentively and act as reason shall direct. [*Lady*

Lucy, Sir John and the Old Woman retire.

Kreigf. I remember (vat do you call dat ting dere) it vas loose vid de child, ven vee march'd of a sudden in te tark night; and if any pody doubt te truth of it, der divil I vill broof it as becomes ein good soldier. [*Takes hold on his sword.*

Phil. O I believe it, sir.

Suf. And so do I.

Rob. For my part——I always thought she deserv'd to be a lady, and that shews I'm aman of judgement and taste——well mrs. *Phillis*, what say you, shall we make up our quarrel, and follow the example of our betters——I am all repentance.

Phil. Why—I may as well take you now you are in the humour, or may-hap you may slip thro' my fingers again.

Lady Lu. These proofs are incontestible.

Sir John

Sir John. My lord, I am fully satisfied, and ask your pardon.

Lady Lu. I need not repeat what my obligations were, and am sincerely rejoic'd that they at length are remov'd. She always merited—and possess'd my love and esteem, but will now be entitl'd to them from an additional tie.

[embracing Fanny]

Sir John. Accept, my lord, my hearty congratulations---let the anxieties of the few past hours, be buried in oblivion.

Lord Lov. I join in every wish for our general happiness; which cannot fail, where virtue is the basis of love.

Fanny. I would willingly do my duty by all; but my heart is still wavering between fear and joy, and I cannot express as I ought, my acknowledgements of your favours: my future behaviour must convince you, I am not undeserving of your good opinion.

DUET and CHORUS.

L. Lov. *The merchant fraught with treasure,
By restless billows tost;
At length beholds with pleasure,
His wish'd for destin'd Coast:
On dangers past he thinks no more,
But fondly eyes the welcome shore.*

Fan. *From noxious dews descending,
The lily clos'd all night,
It self from blasts defending,
Preserves its native white:
At morn unfolds its snow white leaves
And vital heat and strength receives.*

DUET.

D U E T.

Fan. *In thee each wish obtaining,
No more of fate complaining,
What language can impart!
The transports of my heart?
A thousand raptures fill my breast,
They glow intence in ev'ry vein;
Shall my tortur'd mind have rest,
Shall I know an end of pain.*

D U E T.

Phil. } *Forgive us good my lady.*
Suf. }
Fan. *Your pardon's seal'd already.*
Rob. *O! pray forgive me too,
For daring to make love to you;*

T R I O.

Phil. } *Forgive my lord and lady.*
Suf. }
Rob. }

D U E T.

L. Lov. } *Your pardon's seal'd already,*
Fan. }

D U E T.

L. Lov. } *Love when constant hearts unite,*
Fan. } *Rewards their pangs with true delight.*

C H O R U S.

*Love when constant hearts unite,
Rewards their pangs with true delight,
To make the generous passion last,
Let truth and virtue bind it fast.*

END OF THE OPERA.

